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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 919,595	07 31 2001	Ashish K. Khandpur	56784U S002	2530

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EXAMINER

CHANG, VICTOR S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1771

DATE MAILED: 01 21 2003

/1

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/919,595

Applicant(s)

KHANDPUR ET AL.

Examiner

Victor S Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133)
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-21 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

1) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-449)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)

1) ☐ Notice of Informal Paper Application (PTO-121)

6) ☐ Other

DETAILED ACTION

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Rejections not maintained are withdrawn.

Election/Restrictions

3. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I in Paper No. 9 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that Groups I, II and III claims in different classes and subclasses is not sufficient grounds to require restriction (Response, page 3, second complete paragraph). This is not found persuasive. The Examiner reiterates that these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Response to Amendment

4. The Examiner notes that the newly amended claim 14 recites that the pressure sensitive adhesive article comprises "voids", which according to MPEP 2173.05(i) is acceptable claim language.

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5. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gehlsen et al. (US 6103152), substantially for the reasons set forth in section 4 of Paper No. 3, together with the following additional observations.

With respect to Applicant's Response arguing that Gehlsen provides no suggestion or motivation to combine polyarylene oxide polymer and styrenic block copolymer as the polymer matrix (Response, page 5, complete paragraphs 2-4), the Examiner would like to point out that Gehlsen expressly teaches the use of phenylene oxide alloys as the matrix material (column 7, line 31). Since it is old and well known that the alloy of styrenic block copolymer and polyphenylene oxide polymer provides improved high temperature performance, it is believed that the blending of styrenic block copolymer and polyphenylene oxide polymer to form a suitable polymer alloy is either inherently disclosed or an obvious selection of the materials. Note also as evidence the state of the art Hansen (US 4104323) which teaches that it is known that properties of the polyphenylene ether resins can be materially altered by blending them with other resins (column 1, lines 56-58). Further, Hansen teaches that melt blending of a polyphenylene ether resin and a styrene-diene block copolymer forms adhesive compositions with improved high temperature performance characteristics (column 2, lines 40-46).

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor S Chang whose telephone number is 703-605-4296. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel H Morris can be reached on 703-308-2414. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

VSC
VSC
January 15, 2003

JANIEL ZIRKER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1900
1700

Januel Zinker